

# The Boston Globe

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2017

## Mass. Eye and Ear says it needs help to thrive

Citing financial losses, hospital explains decision to pursue a deal with Partners

By Priyanka Dayal McCluskey  
GLOBE STAFF

Almost 150 years ago, the leaders of the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary faced a difficult prospect. The hospital was treating more and more patients, but it was still losing money. “The unhappy thought was voiced that the Infirmary might not survive, that its burdens were too heavy, its revenues too small and uncertain,” according to a 1984 history of the institution. Hospital leaders took steps to shore up their finances and weathered the challenges.

Today, Mass. Eye and Ear is confronting a similar crisis. After years of financial losses, despite growing patient numbers, hospital leaders say they can no longer go it alone. They want to become part of a larger system, and they’ve chosen Partners HealthCare, the most dominant health care provider in Massachusetts, with which they already share close ties.

Mass. Eye and Ear has carved out a niche for treating ailments of the eyes, ears, nose, and throat, but it needs the

**EYE AND EAR, Page A8**



CRAIG F. WALKER/GLOBE STAFF

Ruth Gordon, 89, took a vision test at Mass. Eye and Ear, where she is being treated for age-related macular degeneration.

## Harvard targeted on race in admissions

Justice Dept. says school not assisting in probe of alleged cap on Asian-Americans

By Deirdre Fernandes  
GLOBE STAFF

The US Justice Department said Tuesday that it is investigating Harvard University’s admissions policies and accused the school of refusing to cooperate, ratcheting up a fight that could have implications for affirmative action policies on campuses across the country.

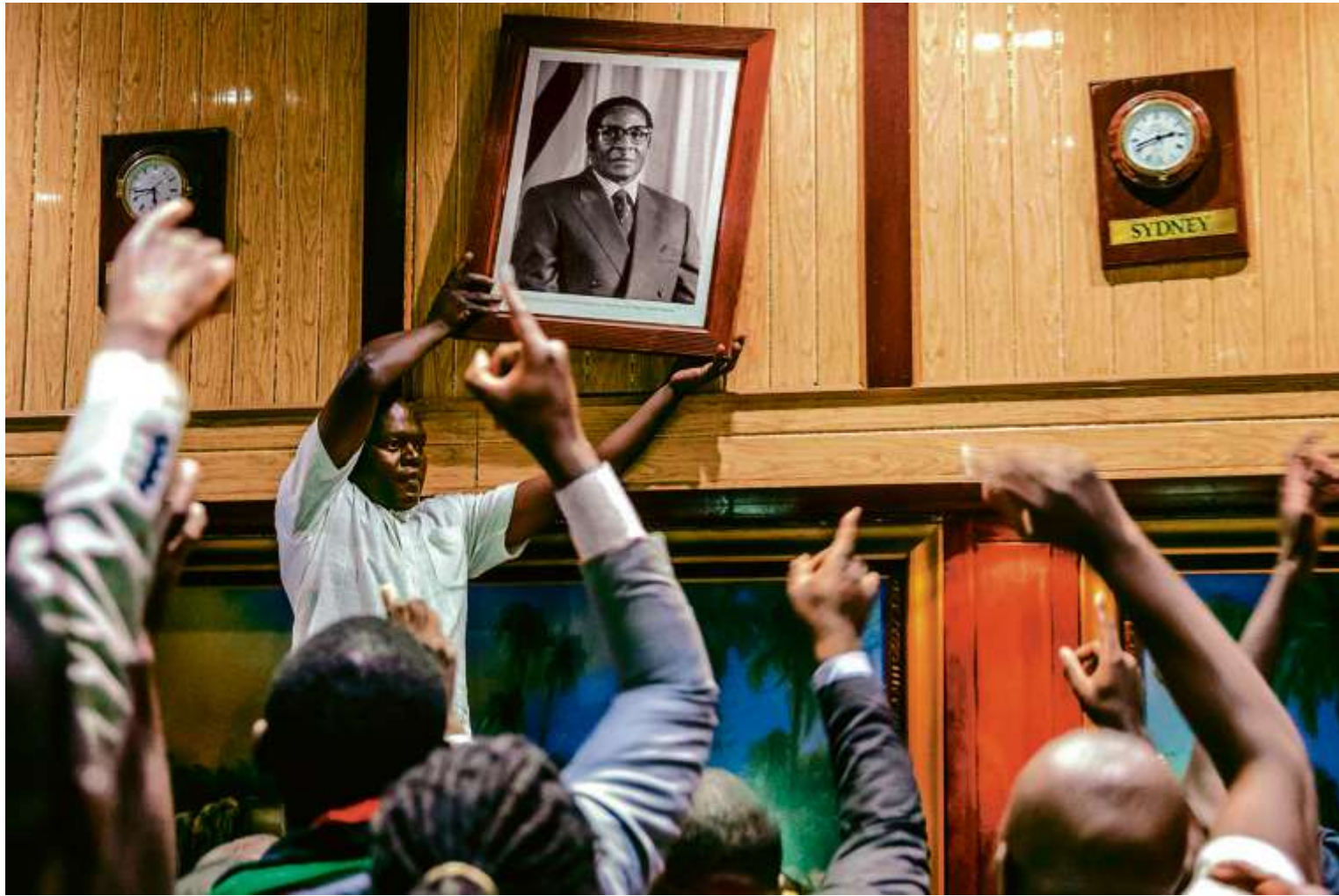
The Justice Department released letters confirming that it had opened a probe into whether Harvard had violated civil rights laws, following up on allegations that it had limited its admissions of Asian-American students. The federal agency threatened to sue Harvard over what it called “delays and challenges” in producing documents related to the investigation.

The Justice Department’s aggressive pursuit of the case, stemming from complaints over two years old, drew applause from conservative opponents of affirmative action, but critics accused Attorney General Jeff Sessions of playing politics.

“This investigation is a welcome development,” said Edward Blum, president of Students for Fair Admissions, a nonprofit that filed a law-

**HARVARD, Page A9**

## MUGABE QUIT, AT LAST



JEKESAI NJIKIZANA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

The former president of Zimbabwe, who had ruled since 1980 and at 93 was the world’s oldest head of state, resigned Tuesday shortly after lawmakers began impeachment proceedings against him. Robert Mugabe had refused to step down after being taken into custody last week by the military and expelled from the party he had led for four decades. **A4.**

## It’s no holiday for those who just can’t stress enough

By Beth Teitell  
GLOBE STAFF

If you didn’t know what was coming Thursday, you’d think the country was bracing for a natural disaster.

TV anchors are urging people to remain calm. Therapists are adding office hours to accommodate the panicky. Doctors are warning diabetics and heart patients about elevated health risks. Motorists are being advised to plan for hurricane-evacuation-level traffic jams. Pet owners have been put on alert.

The threat? Thanksgiving.

In 2017, with a nation divided over President Trump, groping, and, of course, gluten, the narrative around the holiday — #Stress-giving — has become so fear-based that Susan McConathy, a Jamaica Plain mother, says she has to remind herself that it’s a “quote, holiday.”

“There are so many rules,” she said. “You have to modify your recipes to take out the sugar or salt or butter or you will kill someone. You can’t talk about politics or religion or vegans or climate change or the whole family will be torn apart.”

**THANKSGIVING, Page A12**

‘You can’t talk about politics or religion or vegans or climate change or the whole family will be torn apart.’

SUSAN MCCONATHY, *on Thanksgiving*

### The perfect bird

Still think roasting the turkey is a daunting task? These tips will make it a snap. **G1.**

By Annie Linskey  
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — President Trump put his political agenda ahead of the sordid allegations in the Alabama Senate race and offered measured support Tuesday afternoon for Roy Moore, the embattled Republican candidate who has been accused of pursuing sexual relations with girls as young as 14.

Trump, when asked about the surprisingly close Senate race, urged voters to reject Doug Jones, Moore’s Democratic opponent. “I can tell you one thing for sure. We don’t need a liberal person in there, a Democrat,” Trump told reporters.

“Look, he denies it,” said Trump, indicating that Moore deserves the benefit of the doubt despite the consistency of stories told by nine women who say Moore pursued them. “He totally denies it. He says it didn’t happen. And, you know, you have to listen to him also.”

**MOORE, Page A7**

►Pelosi calls for investigation of charges against Conyers. **A2.**

## FCC plans to repeal Net neutrality

The move to dismantle landmark rules that ensure equal access to the Internet would clear the way for companies to charge more and block access to some websites. **B9.**

**CBS fired Charlie Rose and PBS canceled distribution of his interview show** after he was accused of sexual misconduct by multiple women. **B10.**

**Advocates for Haitian immigrants vowed to fight** to keep them in the United States. **B1.**

David Cassidy, a 1970s teen idol who starred in “The Partridge Family,” died at 67. He sold millions of records as the group’s lead singer. **B8.**



**Somerville District Court clerk magistrate Robert Tomasone was suspended** amid allegations that his private secretary worked on his personal business while paid by the state. **B1.**

**A photo of a coyote with a cat in its mouth, shot by a Newton woman, illustrates how widespread** the predators have become, experts said. **B1.**

### Stop ahead

**Wednesday:** Rain ending p.m. High 50-55. Low 27-32.

**Thursday:** Sunny, chillier. High 39-44. Low 29-34.

Complete report, **B13.**

‘Now, it’s like every night, “Oh, my gosh. Can they keep it up?”’

ELLEN BERLIN, *who’s found herself swept up in the Celtics excitement*

## Celtics winning converts as streak rolls on

By Michael Levenson  
GLOBE STAFF

Make room!

The Celtics bandwagon is filling up fast now that a team many had written off has turned into a surprise juggernaut with a 16-game winning streak and the best record in the league.

With each victory, often after the team came back from a double-digit deficit, the green fever seems to be building, sweeping up even casual observers like Ellen Berlin, a media relations specialist who finds herself rushing home after dinner to catch the games and staying up past her bedtime to watch the end of the fourth quarter.

“The enthusiasm and the excitement from the games becomes contagious,” said Berlin, who works at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Typically, she said, she’s “not really a big professional basketball fan.”

“Now, it’s like every night, ‘Oh, my gosh. Can they keep it up?’” Berlin said. “This is different. And me staying up till after 11 o’clock to watch the end of a game is really different.”



LANE TURNER/GLOBE STAFF

The team’s resurgence has been all the more improbable for fans who watched Gordon Hayward suffer a gruesome ankle

**CELTICS, Page A12**

Jeff Lentz, a Michigan resident, checked out the green on Tuesday at Boston ProShop in TD Garden.

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